

and how much is likely to be spent this year, and

(c) what steps are being taken to manufacture the rigs indigenously?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K D MALAVIA) (a) Two rigs were imported from USSR during 1974-75. Orders have already been placed to import 10 rigs during the current year from USSR, Romania and U.S.A.

(b) During 1974-75 the total foreign exchange spent on the import of rigs by the ONGC was of the order of Rs 5.09 crores. During 1975-76 ONGC has planned to spend about Rs 22.3 crores for importing additional rigs. In addition, Oil India Limited is likely to incur an expenditure of the order of about Rs 2.09 crores for the import of a rig from the USA.

(c) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) have entered into collaboration with a foreign firm for the indigenous manufacture of rigs. The Commission has already issued a Letter of Intent to BHEL for the supply of seven rigs. The first rig is expected to be delivered towards the end of 1977.

Passenger Service of New Katni-Morena Line

5277 **SHRI RANABHADUR SINGH** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether heavy coal rakes have been plying on the New Katni-Morena line of Central Railways for more than a year,

(b) whether no passenger service is being provided on that line on the ground of the track instability, and

(c) what is the real reason for not providing passenger service on that line?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) (a) Yes. The Hon-ble Member presumably refers to the Katni-Morwa (Singrauli) Section.

(b) and (c) In the present working conditions of Katni-Singrauli section, running of a passenger train is not desirable. Some of the stations are 18 to 31 kilometres apart and provision of control communication is essential with a view to ensure safety of passengers. Introduction of a passenger train will be considered when necessary facilities become available.

Demand for Nationalisation of Digboi Refinery

5278 **SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) whether 17 members of Parliament from Assam have urged the Centre to nationalise Digboi refinery with immediate effect, in view of the critical oil crisis in the country

(b) whether they have also urged increase the price of crude oil from Rs 15 to Rs 75 per tonne and

(c) if so the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C P MAJHI)

(a) to (c) A memorandum signed by 15 Members of Parliament has been received wherein it has been inter alia suggested that the Digboi refinery should be taken over immediately and that the royalty for Assam crude should be increased to Rs 75/- per tonne. The suggestion for nationalisation of the Digboi refinery has been noted, and in line with the declared policy of acquiring effective control over the petroleum refineries and marketing companies the Digboi refinery will also be

brought into the Public Sector at the appropriate time Regarding the proposal for increasing the royalty, no final decision has yet been taken

रेलवे बंधनार्थ, भुमनाबल का विस्तार

5279 श्री गणेश च द शि ।
क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार ने भुमनाबल रेलवे बंधनार्थ का विस्तार करने का निर्णय किया है ।

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो विस्तार योजना की मुख्य बातें क्या हैं और

(ग) इस योजना को जोड़ने की प्रस्तावित करने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

रेल बंधनार्थ में उ मंत्री (श्री दूरा सिंह) (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

**Recruitment to posts advertised by
Railway Service Commission,
Muzaffarpur (North
Eastern Railway)**

5280 SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS
be pleased to state

(a) whether Railway Service Commission, Muzaffarpur (North Eastern Railway) had advertised for about 600 posts for which about 70,000 applications were filed in time.

(b) whether even after the lapse of about 1½ years neither written test nor interviews have been called for, and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the exact time schedule for test, interviews, selection and appointment of the applicants?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
BUTA SINGH)** (a) To fill up 913 posts for 25 categories, 65,680 applications were received by the Railway Service Commission, Muzaffarpur

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House

**Estimate for alternate alignment on
Kangra Valley Railway**

5281 PROF NARAIN CHAND
PARASHAR Will the Minister of
RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) the total estimate for the construction of alternate alignment of Kangra Valley Railway and the demand made on the Beas Dam authorities before the construction work on the alignment was taken up,

(b) whether there has been any revision of these estimates since then and the number of times the estimates have been revised for this project and the figures for each revision,

(c) the target date for completion of the alignment first decided upon by the Railway Administration the number of times it has been revised alongwith each revised date and the reasons for which the revision was made, and

(d) whether the State Government has also been consulted at the time of taking a decision to dismantle the line and the revision of target date and if so the reaction of the State Government?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
BUTA SINGH)** (a) The original estimated cost of the work in 1969 was Rs 3 62 crore, which was the amount intimated to the Beas Dam Authorities A quarterly advance was agreed to by the FA & CAO/Beas Dam Project during